Appl. No. 10/072,379
Amdt. dated December 30, 2003
Reply to Office Action of October 2, 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A card destruction system **, wherein each card to be destroyed is identified by identification information thereon, the system** comprising:

a reader that is configured to read identification information from the card;

a controller that is coupled to the reader, wherein the controller is configured to receive the identification information **in order to identify the card** and to determine whether the card is to be destroyed; **and**

a delivery sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card is delivered to a card destruction device;

wherein the controller is further configured to produce a **an automatic** record of the destruction based on **the identification information and in response to** a signal from the sensor.

2.   (Original) A system as in claim 1, further comprising a moving system to move the card through the reader and to the card destruction device.

3.   (Original) A system as in claim 2, wherein the moving system comprises a plurality of rollers, at least some of which are rotatable in opposite directions to move the card between the rollers.

4.   (Original) A system as in claim 3, further comprising an AC motor that is configured to rotate certain ones of the rollers that are upstream and downstream of the reader.

5.   (Original) A system as in claim 3, further comprising a DC motor that is configured to rotate certain ones of the rollers that are associated with the reader.

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6.   (Original) A system as in claim 2, further comprising a feeding mechanism that is configured to feed individual cards from a stack of cards to the moving system.

7.   (Original) A system as in claim 6, wherein the feeding mechanism includes a cam that is operable based on a signal from the controller to move a card from the stack and into the moving system.

8.   (Original) A system as in claim 3, further comprising an entry sensor that is coupled to the controller to sense when a card has entered the moving system, and an exit sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card has exited the reader.

9.   (Original) A system as in claim 8, wherein the controller is configured to stop rotation of at least some of the rollers if the card reaches the exit sensor and the determination as to whether the card is to be destroyed has not been made.

10.   (Original) A system as in claim 2, further comprising a switch disposed along the moving system downstream of the reader to direct movement of the card to the destruction device or to a holding location depending on the determination from the controller.

11.   (Original) A system as in claim 1, wherein the record produced by the controller includes the identification information, a date and time of destruction, and operator information.

12.   (Currently Amended) A card destruction system**, wherein each card to be destroyed is identified by identification information thereon, the system** comprising:

a reader that is configured to read identification information from the card;

a controller that is coupled to the reader, wherein the controller is configured to receive the identification information **in order to identify the card** and to determine whether the card is to be destroyed; **and**

a card destruction device that is configured to receive and destroy cards;

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a delivery sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card is delivered to a card destruction device;

wherein the controller is further configured to **automatically** produce a record of the destruction based on **the identification information and in response to** a signal from the sensor.

13.   (Original) A system as in claim 12, wherein the card destruction device comprises a shredder.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method for destroying cards, **wherein each card to be destroyed is identified by identification information thereon,** the method comprising:

reading identification information from a card using a reader;

determining with a controller whether the card is to be destroyed based on the identification information;

sending the card to a destruction device if the controller determines that the card is to be destroyed; and

sensing delivery of the card to the card destruction device with a delivery sensor and sending the sensed information to the controller to produce ~~a~~ **an automatic** record of the destruction **based on the identification information**.

15.   (Original) A method as in claim 14, further comprising moving the card through the reader and to the destruction device with a moving system.

16.   (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein the moving system comprises rollers, and further comprising moving the rollers in opposite directions to move the card.

17.   (Original) A method as in claim 14, further comprising feeding the card to the moving system from a stack of cards that are held in a bin.

18.   (Original) A method as in claim 14, wherein the destruction record includes the identification information, a date and time of destruction, and operator information.

      19.   (Original) A method as in claim 14, wherein the reading step comprises reading the identification information from a magnetic stripe on the card.